

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331 Telephone: (626) 458-5100 www.ladpw.org

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: P.O. BOX 1460 ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: PD-3

April 14, 2005

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

16TH STREET DRAIN
NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND AUTHORITY TO PROCEED
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5
3 VOTES

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:

- Consider the Negative Declaration for the proposed 16th Street Drain project, concur that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment, find that the Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment of the County, and approve the Negative Declaration.
- 2. Approve the project and authorize Public Works to carry out the project.
- Authorize Public Works to pay the \$1,250 fee to the State Department of Fish and Game as required by the Department of Fish and Game and the Public Resources Codes.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the project is to replace collapsed drains and substandard catch basins along 16th Street and Walnut Street in the City of Santa Clarita.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors April 14, 2005 Page 2

An environmental impact analysis/documentation is a California Environmental Quality Act requirement that is to be used in evaluating the environmental impacts of this project and should be considered in the approval of this project. As the project administrator, we are also the lead agency in terms of meeting the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.

The Initial Study of Environmental Factors indicated that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, in accordance with the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, a Negative Declaration was prepared and circulated for public review.

<u>Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals</u>

This action is consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence as this action will eliminate stagnant water conditions caused by collapsed drains and install catch basins that are easily maintained to improve the welfare of the local residents.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact on the County's General Fund. The estimated cost for the project, including Department of Fish and Game and filing fees, is \$500,000. This project is included in the Fiscal Year 2004-05 Flood Control District Fund Budget. A construction contract will be advertised for bids at a later date, contingent on your approval.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Under the California Environmental Quality Act, any lead agency preparing a Negative Declaration must provide a public notice within a reasonable period of time prior to certification of the Negative Declaration. To comply with this requirement, a Public Notice, pursuant to Section 21092 of the Public Resources Code, was published in the Signal on February 22, 2005. Copies of the Negative Declaration were sent to the Valencia and Newhall public libraries for public review. Notices regarding the availability of the Negative Declaration were mailed to residents in the vicinity of the project.

The public review period for the Negative Declaration ended on March 24, 2005. No comments were received.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors April 14, 2005 Page 3

Based upon the Initial Study of Environmental Factors, the Negative Declaration determined that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, approval of the Negative Declaration is requested at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The California Environmental Quality Act requires public agency decision makers to document and consider the environmental implications of their action.

A fee must be paid to the State Department of Fish and Game when certain notices required by the California Environmental Quality Act are filed with the County Clerk. Upon approval of the Negative Declaration by your Board, Public Works will submit a check in the amount of \$1,250 to the County Clerk to pay the fee. In addition, a \$25 handling fee will be paid to the County Clerk for processing. We will also file a Notice of Determination in accordance with the requirements of Section 21152(a) of the California Public Resources Code.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The project will not have a significant impact on current road services or projects currently planned.

<u>CONCLUSION</u>

Please return one approved copy of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD L. WOLFE Acting Director of Public Works

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Enc.

cc: Chief Administrative Office

County Counsel

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

FOR

16TH STREET DRAIN

I. <u>Location and Brief Description</u>

The proposed project is located in the in the City of Santa Clarita at the intersection of 16th Street and Walnut Street.

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works is proposing to replace Consolidated Drain (CDR) 523.121. The existing system of yard drains, 80 feet of corrugated metal pipe, 60 feet of reinforced concrete box, and 60 feet of reinforced concrete pipe will be replaced with approximately 265 feet of 42-inch reinforced concrete pipe that will run under 16th Street easterly toward Walnut Street and approximately 950 feet of 30-inch, 48-inch, or 54-inch reinforced concrete pipe drain that will run under Walnut Street from 16th Street to the South Fork Santa Clara River.

Right-of-way acquisition between Walnut Street and the South Fork Santa Clara River will be required to complete the project.

The purpose of the project is to provide a drainage system that meets Public Works standards. The existing system does not meet maintenance design standards and will be abandoned by the homeowners and the City of Santa Clarita.

II. <u>Mitigation Measures Included in the Project to Avoid Potentially Significant Effects</u>

No significant effects are identified.

III. Finding of No Significant Effect

Based on the attached Initial Study, it has been determined that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Attach.

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ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" or "Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated," as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

Aesthetics	Agriculture Resources	Air Quality
Biological Resources	Cultural Resources	Geology/Soils
Hazards & Hazardous Materials	Hydrology/Water Quality	Land Use/Planning
Mineral Resources	Noise	Population/Housing
Public Services	Recreation	Transportation/Traffic
Utilities/Service Systems	Mandatory Findings of Sign	ificance
DETERMINATION: (To be completed by On the basis of this initial evaluation:	the Lead Agency)	
X I find that the proposed project CO NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be p	ULD NOT have a significant ef prepared.	fect on the environment, and a
I find that although the proposed pro not be a significant effect in this case to by the project proponent. A MITIC	e because revisions in the project	t have been made by or agreed
I find that the proposed project I ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPOR	MAY have a significant effect RT is required.	on the environment, and an
I find that the proposed project MAY unless mitigated" impact on the example analyzed in an earlier document pure by mitigation measures based on ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT be addressed.	nvironment, but at least one e suant to applicable legal standar the earlier analysis as descri	effect 1) has been adequately ds, and 2) has been addressed bed on affached sheets. An
I find that although the proposed proj all potentially significant effects (a) h IMPACT REPORT or NEGATIVE D been avoided or mitigated pursua NEGATIVE DECLARATION, includir proposed project, nothing further is re	ave been analyzed adequately i ECLARATION pursuant to appl int to that earlier ENVIRONM ng revisions or mitigation measu equired.	n an earlier ENVIRONMENTAL icable standards, and (b) have ENTAL IMPACT REPORT or
Signature	February 17, 2005 Date	
Dale Sakamoto	County of Los Angel	es Department of Public Works
Printed Name	For	

INITIAL STUDY OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:

- 1. Project Title: 16th Street Drain
- 2. Lead Agency Name and Address: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, 11th Floor, Programs Development Division, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, California 91803-1331.
- 3. Contact Person and Phone Number: Mr. Dale Sakamoto-(626) 458-3915
- **4. Project Location:** City of Santa Clarita near the confluence of South Fork Santa Clara River and Newhall Creek (see attached map).
- 5. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:** County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, California 91803-1331
- 6. General Plan Designation: City of Santa Clarita
- 7. **Zoning:** Residential/Floodway
- 8. Description of Project: The project will replace Consolidated Drain 523.121. An existing collection of yard drains, three catch basins, and a grated trench drain flow into a system of 80 linear feet of corrugated metal pipe, 60 linear feet of reinforced concrete box, and 60 linear feet of 18-inch reinforced concrete pipe. The corrugated metal pipe drain has collapsed under private property. The project will replace all catch basins and the trench drain with department standard catch basins equipped with water quality pollutant capture devices. 30-inch, 42-inch, 48-inch, and 54-inch reinforced concrete pipe will route the flows from 16th Street and Walnut Street to the South Fork Santa Clara River. The existing outlet at Newhall Creek and collapsed yard drain will be abandoned by the homeowners and the City of Santa Clarita.

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Settings:

- A. **Project Site-**The project will be aligned within the public road right of way consisting of residential streets with curbs and gutters and sidewalks. Right of way will be acquired north of Walnut Street
- B. Surrounding Properties-The topography of the surrounding project area is generally flat. The project starts in a developed residential area. The project ends in a riverbed that is dry willow scrub. The river terrace is flat, bare, graded land. Animal life includes domesticated animals such as cats and dogs, rodents, birds, and insects. No known endangered species or species of special concern exist within the project limit.
- 10. Other agencies whose approval is required (and permits needed):

Department of Fish and Game 1601 Streambed Alteration Agreement Army Corp of Engineers 404 Permit Regional Water Quality Control Board 401 Certification

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants based on a project specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- "Potential Significant Impact" is appropriate if an effect is significant or potentially significant or if the lead agency lacks information to make a finding of insignificance. If there are one or more "Potential Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required.
- 4) "Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potential Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVIII, "Earlier Analysis," may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other California Environmental Quality Act process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). Earlier analyses are discussed in Section XVIII at the end of the checklist.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). See the sample question below. A source list should be attached and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

16TH STREET DRAIN ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

			Potential Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I.	AES	STHETICS - Would the project:	·	<u> </u>		· ·
	a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic				
		vista?			į.	X
	b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including,				
	'	but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and	:			
		historic buildings within a State scenic highway?			:	X
	c)	Substantially degrade the existing visual				
		character or quality of the site and its			х	
	d\	surroundings?			^	
	d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare				
		which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				Х
II.	AGI	RICULTURE RESOURCES - In determining whether				
	acts t	o agricultural resources are significant environmenta	₹r 1			
effe	ects le	ead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural	1			
		aluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared	1			
		alifornia Department of Conservation as an optional	•			
		use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmlan	d.	•		
		e project:				
	a)	Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or				
		Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland),				
		as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the				
	1	Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of				
		the California Resources Agency, to	•			
	1	nonagricultural use?				X
	b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use				
	 	or a Williamson Act contract?	:			Х
	c)	Involve other changes in the existing		•		
	1	environment which, due to their location or			N ₁	**
	1	nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to				v
***	AID	nonagricultural use?			·····	X
III.	AIK Cons	QUALITY - Where available, the significance				
		stablished by the applicable air quality				
		nent or air pollution control district may be on to make the following determinations.		•		
		e project:	•			
***	(a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the			r	
	"	applicable air quality plan?				Х
	b)	Violate any air quality standard or contribute				
	"	substantially to an existing or projected air	i	ļ	х	
	1	quality violation?		,	^	
	(c)	Results in a cumulatively considerable net				
	"	increase of any criteria pollutant for which the		İ]	
	1	project region is nonattainment under an	İ		· .	
		applicable Federal or State ambient air quality	İ			X
		standard (including releasing emissions which		j		^
		exceed quantitative thresholds for zone			İ	
	1	precursors)?				

•			Potential Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	d)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			×	
	(e)	Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?			×	
IV.	BIOI	OGICAL RESOURCES - Would the project:				
	a)	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?			×	
	b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?			x	
	c)	Have a substantial adverse effect on Federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				x
	d)	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident, migratory fish, or wildlife species; or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors; or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				х
	е)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X
:	f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan; Natural Community Conservation Plan; or other approved local, regional, or State habitat conservation plan?				x
٧.	CUL	TURAL RESOURCES - Would the project:				
	a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in '15064.5?				×
	b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to '15064.5?				×
	c)	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?		*		х
	d)	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				Х

			Potential Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impac
VI.	GEC	PLOGY AND SOILS - Would the project:			 	
	a)	Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				Х
		i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a know fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				X
		ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?				· X
		iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				X
		iv) Landslides?				Х
	b)	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			X	
	c)	Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in onor off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?				х
	d)	Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	,			х
	e)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?				х
VII.	HAZ	ARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Would	the project:			
	a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				Х
	b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?			×	
	c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?			×	
	d)	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code, Section 65962.5, and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X

			Potential Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	е)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
-	f)	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				Х
	g)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			х	
~ 2192	h)	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				x
VIII.	. <u>НҮ</u> С	DROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY - Would the p Violate any water quality standards or waste	oroject:			
	a,	discharge requirements?	,	,	·	X
	b)	Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of preexisting nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been				x
	c)	granted)? Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?			x	
	d)	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?			×	
	е)	Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				×
	f)	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?				Х
	g)	Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				X

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·			Potential Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	h)	Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				Х
	i) .	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				Х
	j)	Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				Х
IX.	LAN	D USE AND PLANNING - Would the project:		<u> </u>		
	(a)	Physically divide an established community?	1		<u> </u>	Х
	b)	Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of any agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				X
	c)	Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				X
X.	MINI	ERAL RESOURCES - Would the project:				
<u> </u>						
	a)	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	·	:		X
	b)	Result in the loss of availability of a locally- important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?				X
XI.	NOIS	SE - Would the project result in:				
	a)	Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies?	,		х	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	b)	Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?			x	
	c)	A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				Х
	d)	A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?			х	
	е)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				x

			·			
			Potential Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	f)	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				х
XII.	~	PULATION AND HOUSING - Would the project:				
	a)	Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				х
,	b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?			·	х
	(c)	Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				х
XIII.		BLIC SERVICES -				
	(a)	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response				
		times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
	<u> </u>	Fire protection?	<u> </u>			Х
	 	Police protection?				Х
		Schools?		<u> </u>		X
		Parks?		ļ		X
	<u></u> '	Other public facilities?				Х
XIV.		CREATION -				
	a)	Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				х
	b)	Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				х
XV.	TRA	ANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC - Would the project:				
	a)	Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?			X	

		Potential Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b)	level of service standard established by the County Congestion Management Agency for designated roads or highways?				х
(c)	including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	·			×
(d)	feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				×
e)	Result in inadequate emergency access?		,	X	
f)	Result in inadequate parking capacity?				Х
g)	Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				х
XVI. U	TILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS - Would the pr	oject:			
a)	Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?				х
b)	Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				х
c)	Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			х	
d)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	,		·	×
e)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				x
f)	Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				, X
g)		·			Х

		Potential Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVII. M	ANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE -				
(a)	Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?				x
b)	Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively Considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)				×
(c)	Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?				х

XVIII. DISCUSSION OF WAYS TO MITIGATE SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS -

Section 15041 (a) of the State California Environmental Quality Act guidelines states that a lead agency for a project has authority to require changes in any or all activities involved in the project in order to lessen or avoid significant effects on the environment. No significant effects have been identified.

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ATTACHMENT A

DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

16TH STREET DRAIN

I. <u>AESTHETICS-Would the project:</u>

a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

No impact. The project is not located in a scenic vista.

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a State scenic highway?

No impact. There would be no impact because 16th Street is not a State scenic highway. Walnut Street is not a State scenic highway.

c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

Less than significant impact. The project consists construction of catch basins and underground drains. There will be temporary views of excavation, barriers, trucks, and equipment. At completion, there will be no visible structures except for an outlet at South Fork Santa Clara River. The project will install catch basins to match existing street improvements and will not degrade the existing character or quality of the neighborhood.

d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

No impact. The project would not include additional lighting systems or structures that could result in glare. Therefore, the project will have no impact on day or nighttime views in the area.

II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES-In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:

a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to nonagricultural use?

No impact. A field review of the project site confirmed that the area is not used for agricultural purposes or as farmland. Therefore, the project will have no impact on the conversion of farmland to nonagricultural use.

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?

No impact. The project is not zoned or used for agricultural purposes. The project will not impact any existing zoning for agricultural use or Williamson Act contract.

c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to nonagricultural use?

No impact. There is no farmland in the area. The project does not involve changes in the existing environment that could result in the conversion of farmland to nonagricultural use.

- III. AIR QUALITY-Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:
 - a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

No impact. The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works currently complies with dust control measures enforced by the South Coast Air Quality Management District. The project will not conflict with current implementation of the applicable air quality plan.

b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

Less than significant impact. Construction-related emissions and dust would be emitted during project construction. However, the effect would be temporary and would not significantly alter the ambient air quality of the area. Construction activities are anticipated to occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The project specifications would require the contractor to control dust by appropriate means such as sweeping and/or watering and comply with applicable air pollution regulations. The impacts would be temporary and considered less than significant.

c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is nonattainment under an applicable Federal or State ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?

No impact. The project will not result in a permanent increase in vehicle trips to the project location. The project construction will not lead to emissions which exceed thresholds for ozone precursors. Therefore, the project would have no impact on ambient air quality standards.

d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Less than significant impact. There is a school located on 16th Street within one block of the project area. The project may create small amounts of dust during construction and pollution from diesel trucks. However, the effect would be temporary and would not significantly alter the ambient air quality of the area. Construction activities would be restricted to the construction times allowed by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. The project specifications would require the contractor to control dust by appropriate pollution regulations. The impacts would be temporary and considered less than significant. No substantial pollutant concentration will be produced by the project. Therefore, the exposure of sensitive receptors to a substantial pollutant concentrations would be less than significant.

e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

Less than significant impact. Objectionable odors may be generated from exhaust fumes of diesel trucks and construction equipment during construction activities. This will be temporary. Thus, the impact of creating objectionable odor is considered less than significant.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES-Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? Less than significant impact. No sensitive or special status species, as identified by the California Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, are known to exist at the project site. Focused surveys were conducted in 2003 for the unarmored three-spine stickle back, arroyo toad, least Bell's vireo, Southwestern willow flycatcher, and slender-horned spineflower. No sensitive species were observed in the project area.

b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Less than significant impact. The project site is in Reach #75 of the 100 soft-bottom channels included in the Streambed Alteration Agreement #5-076-99 that authorizes routine channel clearing, bank-to-bank under permit conditions. The impact of approximately 700 square feet of riprap placed on the bank and 450 square feet of riprap placed in the stream bed is less than significant. The project is tentatively scheduled to follow soon after channel clearing maintenance.

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

No impact. There are no wetland habitats, marshes, riparian areas, or vernal pools in residential or primarily dry open terrace areas surrounding the project. The project will have no impact on Federally-protected wetlands.

d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

No impact. The project is in a residential area and extends to the border of the South Fork Santa Clara River. The project will not impact any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife.

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

No impact. No known locally protected biological resources exist at the project site. The project will not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources. The South Fork in this area is subject to periodic flood control maintenance activities and is virtually without plant cover and has little biological value.

f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or State Habitat Conservation Plan?

No impact. No known adopted habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan exist within the project site. The project will have no impact on any of these plans

V. <u>CULTURAL RESOURCES - Would the project</u>:

a-d) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical or archaeological resource as defined in Section 15064.5; directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource, site, or unique geologic feature; or disturb any human remains, including those interred outside formal cemeteries?

No impact. No known historical, archaeological, or paleontological resources exist in the project area. The project consists repair and replacement of drains in a residential area and will have no impact on historical or archaeological resources.

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS - Would the project:

- a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
- i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

No impact. There are no known active faults underlying the project site, and we do not anticipate a fault rupture occurring at the project site.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

No impact. Although the project area is seismically active, the drainage system will be designed to earthquake-related safety standards. The proposed system will be below grade and within street right of way, reducing the hazards of seismic ground shaking. Activities relating to the project are not expected to trigger strong seismic ground shaking.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

No impact. The project is not in a liquefaction area as designated by the California Geological Survey of the California Department of Conservation. The project will not expose people or structures to seismic-related ground failure.

iv) Landslides?

No impact. The project will not expose people or structures to landslides.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

Less than significant impact. The project consists of drainage construction in the residential streets and through bare, graded terrace of the South Fork Santa Clara River. Best Management Practices related to erosion control will be specified in the contract. The project area will be restored to its original condition. The project impact on soil erosion and loss of topsoil is considered less than significant.

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in onor off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?

No impact. The project involves construction of a drainage system in a residential area. The scope of work for the project would involve minimal excavation. The project is not located on a geologic unit or soil that is or would become unstable as a result of the project.

d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?

No impact. The soil at the project location is not considered expansive. The project would not impact soil expansion, creating substantial risks to life or property.

e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?

No impact. This project does not generate sanitary waste water.

VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Would the project:

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

No impact. The project does not involve the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. The project will have no impact on the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.

b-c) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment or emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous materials, substances or wastes within one quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

Less than significant impact. Combustible engine fluids from the construction equipment are potentially hazardous substances. Necessary precautions will be taken to prevent the spillage of any hazardous substances that may affect the public or the environment at the project site. It is unlikely that an explosion, emission, or release of hazardous or acutely hazardous substances will occur as a result of the project. Project specifications would require the contractor to properly maintain all equipment during construction. In the event of any spills of fluids, the contractor is required to remediate according to all applicable laws regarding chemical cleanups, and the nearby school officials would be notified of the spill and any precautions to be taken. The project impact on the public or the environment is considered less than significant.

d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code, Section 65962.5, and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

No impact. The project site is not known to be a hazardous materials site. The project will have no impact on hazardous materials to create significant hazard to the public or environment.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

No impact. The project area is not within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public use airport. The project will have no impact on safety for people residing or working in the project area.

f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

No impact. The project is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. The project will have no impact relating to safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.

g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Less than significant impact. The project site is located within the public road right of way and may interfere with the emergency response plan. However, this would have only a short-term effect as possible lane closures would be temporary during the construction period. The project specification will require at least one through traffic lane to remain open at time during construction and the notification of emergency service providers within the area of any street closures. The project impact on emergency service response plan is considered less than significant.

h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

No impact. The project site is in a residential area and floodplain with no flammable brush wildlands located in the vicinity. The project is not expected to result in adverse impacts related to risks associated with wildland fires.

VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY-Would the project:

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

No impact. The contractor will be required to implement Best Management Practices as required by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit issued to the County by the Regional Water Quality Control Board to minimize construction impacts on water quality. The project will have no impact on the water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.

b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of preexisting nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

No impact. The project would not involve the use of any water that would result in a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level. The project will have no impact on groundwater supplies or groundwater recharge.

c-d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or offsite or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on or offsite?

Less than significant impact. The project will not cause any substantial changes in the drainage patterns of the project site. The existing outlet is in Newhall Creek approximately 1,000 feet upstream from the confluence with South Fork Santa Clara River. The new outlet will be at the South Fork Santa Clara River near the confluence of Newhall Creek. The surface along the drain alignment will be restored to its original condition. The project will not result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site or increase the amount of surface runoff.

e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

No impact. The construction of the project will not result in additional surface water runoff. The contractor will take precautions to ensure that any hazardous chemical spills are properly cleaned up. The project will have no impact on the capacity of the stormwater drainage systems and will not provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff.

f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

No impact. The contractor will adhere to applicable Best Management Practices to minimize any degradation to water quality during construction. The project will not impact or degrade water quality.

g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?

No impact. The project will not place any housing within a 100-year flood hazard area.

h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?

No impact. The project will not place any structures within a 100-year flood hazard area that impede or redirect flood flows. The outlet will be designed to not interfere with flood flows.

i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?

No impact. The project will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding.

j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

No impact. The project will not cause or be subject to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING - Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community?

No impact. The project is underground in street right of way. No new roads or physical barriers will be constructed in the City of Santa Clarita. The project will not physically divide the community.

b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

No impact. The project does not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of agencies with jurisdiction over the project.

c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

No impact. The project will not conflict with any habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan adopted by any agency or community. The project will incorporate any mitigation requirements consistent with the Valencia Company Natural River Management Plan.

X. MINERAL RESOURCES-Would the project:

a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the State?

No impact. The construction of the project would not deplete any known mineral resources. The project will have no impact resulting in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource.

b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?

No impact. The project site is not identified as a mineral resource recovery site in the local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. The project will have no impact on a locally important mineral resource recovery site.

XI. NOISE-Would the project result in:

a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

Less than significant impact. Noise levels within the project site would increase during construction. However, the impact is temporary and will be subject to existing noise ordinances and standards set by U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The contractor will be required to comply with the construction hours specified in the County noise control ordinances. Overall, since the construction period will last for a short period, the project would not expose people to severe long time noise levels. The impact to severe noise levels is considered less than significant.

b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

Less than significant impact. Construction of the project could cause minimal, temporary ground vibration during construction. However, the project specifications would require the contractor to comply with all noise laws and ordinances. The project would be considered less than significant since construction would be for a short period and would not expose people to severe noise levels.

c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project.

No impact. There will be no substantial permanent increase in the ambient noise level due to the project. The project will have no impact on permanent noise increases.

d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

Less than significant impact. During the construction phase of the project, there will be a nominal increase in existing noise levels due to construction and transportation of material to and from the project site. Construction activities will be limited to normal County regulated hours. Due to the short-term nature of the project, the impact from ambient noise levels will be less than significant.

e-f) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels or for a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

No impact. The project is not located within the vicinity of an airport land use plan or airstrip. The project would not expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels.

XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING - Would the project:

a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

No impact. Construction of the project is not expected to result in population growth in the area, directly or indirectly.

b-c) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere, or displace substantial numbers of people necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No impact. The project will not displace existing houses nor displace people, create a demand for housing. The project will have no impact on housing.

XIII. PUBLIC SERVICE

a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services: Fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, other public facilities?

No impact. The project will not affect public services. Physical changes resulting from the project would be confined to the project area and would not result in a need for new or altered governmental services in fire protection, police protection, school, maintenance of public facilities, or other governmental services.

XIV. RECREATION

a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

No impact. The project would not increase the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks.

b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

No impact. The project does not include recreational facilities and will not require the construction or expansion of any recreational facilities.

XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC - Would the project:

a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?

Less than significant impact. The project will require transportation of construction equipment and materials to the project site. This could minimally increase the existing traffic. However, the impact would be only during construction of the project and is temporary. The impact of the project on substantial traffic increases is considered to be less than significant.

b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the County Congestion Management Agency for designated roads or highways?

No impact. The minor increase in traffic in the project area due to construction vehicles is temporary and only during construction. Overall, the project will not directly or indirectly cause traffic to exceed a level of service standard established by the County Congestion Management Agency for roads or highways in the project area.

c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location, that results in substantial safety risks?

No impact. The project will have no impact on air traffic patterns.

d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

No impact. The project does not involve any design features that are known to constitute safety hazards. The project would have no impact on hazards due to design features.

e) Result in inadequate emergency access?

Less than significant impact. The project is located within the public street right of way and may impact the emergency access. Through traffic will be maintained at all times during construction. The project impact on emergency access is considered less than significant.

f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?

No impact. The project construction will not result in the need for more parking. The project will have no impact on parking capacity.

g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?

No impact. The project would not conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation.

XVI. <u>UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS - Would the project:</u>

a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

No impact. The project will not result in contamination or an increase in discharge of wastewater that might affect wastewater treatment. The project will have no impact on the wastewater treatment requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

No impact. The project will not result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities. The project will not result in the expansion of existing water treatment facilities.

c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

Less than significant impact. The construction of the new drainage system is not an expansion of existing facilities. It is a replacement project for an existing system.

d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

No impact. The project will not result in a need for additional water supplies. The project will have no impact on existing water supply entitlements and resources.

e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

No impact. No increase in the number of wastewater discharge facilities will occur as a result of the project. The project will have no impact on wastewater treatment.

f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

No impact. The project will not generate any significant amount of solid waste. The project will have no impact on landfill capacity.

g) Comply with Federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

No impact. The project would comply with all Federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

No impact. Based on findings in this environmental review, the project does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The project will have no impact on the quality of the environment.

b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects?)

No impact. The project would not have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.

c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

No impact. The project would not have a direct or indirect detrimental environmental impact on human beings.